

WHEREAS, Today we honor American veterans of all wars, nearly 29 million citizens who have worn the uniform of freedom and peace with courage and honor; and

WHEREAS, no group has sacrificed more for the cause of peace and freedom than the men and women who have proudly worn the American uniform. In serving God and country, they have sought not glory for themselves, but peace and freedom for us all. We owe them an enduring debt; and

WHEREAS, each year we choose a special day to salute them--to pay homage to the millions of quiet, undemanding heroes who have served so that other generations might be spared war's anguish and destruction; and

WHEREAS, today, we honor them with a very special salute. For they have expressed in their service much of what is finest in our Nation--courage, selflessness, discipline and devotion. These are qualities we will need as much to build a future at peace as we have needed in time of war:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby call upon all our citizens to join in commemorating Monday, October 23, 1972 as

VETERANS DAY

with suitable observances. Let us especially honor the memory of those who have fallen in battle, those of our veterans who lie in hospital beds today, and the brave men held prisoner or missing in action in Southeast Asia, and all their families and dependents. And let us also pledge to accord, not just on one day, but on each day, to the living veterans, especially the disabled, the traditional respect for those who risked their lives that freedom might be preserved. Let all of us give these veterans a helping hand in their readjustment to civilian life; and

FURTHER, I direct the appropriate officials of State Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on that day. And I request the officials of State and local governments, schools, civic and patriotic organizations to give their enthusiastic support and leadership to appropriate public ceremonies throughout the state.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this 18th day of October, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-two.

Richard F. Kneip
RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Alma Larson
ALMA LARSON, SECRETARY OF STATE

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